

## HOUSE RESOLUTION No. \_\_\_\_

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Introduced by: Smith V, Brown C, Candelaria  
Reardon, Crawford, Dickinson, Harris E, Mays,  
Porter, Summers

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*A HOUSE RESOLUTION to congratulate Lovie Smith of the Chicago Bears and Tony Dungy of the Indianapolis Colts on becoming the first African-American head coaches of National Football League teams to qualify for the Super Bowl.*

*Whereas, in the 40 Super Bowls prior to Super Bowl XLI, to be held on February 4, 2007, no National Football League (NFL) team that played in the Super Bowl had an African American head coach;*

*Whereas, on January 21, 2007, in Chicago, Illinois, the Chicago Bears, coached by Lovie Smith, defeated the New Orleans Saints by a score of 39 to 14 in the National Football Conference Championship game and advanced to Super Bowl XLI;*

*Whereas, Lovie Smith was named the 13<sup>th</sup> head coach in*



*Chicago Bears history on January 15, 2004;*

*Whereas, Lovie Smith was named the Associated Press NFL Coach of the Year for 2005;*

*Whereas, Lovie Smith's 11 victories in 2005 are the most by a second-year coach in the history of the Chicago Bears and he became the first second-year coach of the Bears to win a division title, earning the second seed in the National Football Conference playoffs;*

*Whereas, on January 21, 2007, in Indianapolis, Indiana, the Indianapolis Colts, coached by Tony Dungy, defeated the New England Patriots by a score of 38 to 34 in the American Football Conference's Championship game and also advanced to Super Bowl XLI;*

*Whereas, Tony Dungy was named head coach of the Indianapolis Colts on January 22, 2002;*

*Whereas, the 2006 season was Tony Dungy's 5<sup>th</sup> with the Colts and 11<sup>th</sup> as an NFL head coach;*

*Whereas, Tony Dungy is the 35<sup>th</sup> coach in NFL history to earn 100 career victories (including playoff victories);*

*Whereas, Tony Dungy leads all NFL head coaches in wins from 1999 to 2005, with a record of 78 wins and 34 defeats;*

*Whereas, the NFL had a record 7 African-American head coaches in 2006 and a record of 197 African-American coaches total, including 7 assistant head coaches; and*

*Whereas, since Frederick Douglass 'Fritz' Pollard became the first African-American head coach in the NFL in 1922, there have been nine other African-American head coaches in the NFL—including five who are currently serving. Therefore,*

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the  
General Assembly of the State of Indiana:



SECTION 1. That the Indiana House of Representatives congratulates Lovie Smith of the Chicago Bears and Tony Dungy of the Indianapolis Colts for their accomplishments and for being the first African-American head coaches of National Football League teams to qualify for the Super Bowl.

